THE

Worcester Magazine.

NUMBER IX. VOLUME IV.

For the *Fourth* Week in NOVEMBER, 1787.

WORCESTER, (*Maſſachuſetts*) Printed by I. THOMAS, by whom Subſcriptions, Eſſays, &c. &c. for this Work are taken in.

[Price NINE SHILLINGS *per annum*.—SIX PENCE *ſingle*.]

CAVALRY ORDERS.

THE Officers commanding the ſeveral Companies in the Regiment of CAVALRY, in the County of Worceſter, are hereby required to have their Companies completely equipped by the 10th day of *May* next.

EBENEZER CRAFTS, Colonel.

Sturbridge, November 20th, 1787.

☞ *Pleaſe to take* NOTICE.

ALL perſons indebted to DAVID HAMMOND, for Magazines, are hereby notified that he ſhall carry the Magazines for Mr. HOUGHTON the ſecond Week in December next, in order to give them an opportunity to ſettle with him:—Thoſe who do not live on the road are deſired to leave the pay where he left the Magazines; he hopes no one will fail of this opportunity of ſettling with him, as neceſſity will compel him, and he ſhall aſſuredly, though much againſt his inclination, put their accounts in ſuit, after that period, without further notice.

Winchester, Nov. 21*ſt*, 1787. DAVID HAMMOND.

JOHN NAZRO,

HAS juſt Opened, and now ready for ſale, at his Store near the Meeting Houſe in WORCESTER, a large and general Aſſortment of

Engliſh and Weſtindia GOODS,

On the moſt reaſonable terms for Caſh, Potaſh Salts, Aſhes, Shipping Furs, Beefwax and Flaxſeed.

N. B. The utmoſt carefulneſs will be uſed to render the moſt complete ſatisfaction to the purchaſers.

Worceſter, Nov. 17*th*, 1787.

To be S O L D,

FORTY acres of LAND, about a quarter of a mile from BARRE Meeting Houſe, late belonging to Col. NATHAN SPARHAWK. Enquire of JOHN DOLBEAR, at No. 47, Conhill, BOSTON.

Where may be had,

Coatings, Baizes, Shalloons, Duroys, yellow and white Serge Flannels, Welſh ditto, Durants, German Serges and Blankets.

Boſton, 3d Nov. 1787.

Tanned SHEEP SKINS.

WANTED immediately, a number of tanned SHEEP SKINS, fit for Book Binding. Apply to ISAIAH THOMAS.

Pay for Magazines!

THOSE who contracted with the Printer for WOOD, are desired to bring it immediately.—BUTTER, INDIAN CORN, CYDER and PORK are likewise received from those who engaged or incline to bring those articles—they are wanted now, and will not answer if the bringing of them is delayed, as is too often the case, until the Printer is otherwise supplied. If not brought within four weeks (Pork excepted) CASH only will answer.

November 7th, 1787.

PROPOSALS

FOR printing by Subscription, at *Providence*, Rhodeisland, a POEM, on the PROSPECTS of AMERICA, with the Valedictory Addresses subjoined. Spoken at the publick Commencement, in Providence, September 5, 1787, by the Author, JONATHAN MAXCY, A. B. lately appointed one of the Tutors of Rhodeisland College. To which are added, NOTES and OBSERVATIONS, with an APPENDIX, by another hand. Containing a short Topographical and Historical Account of the State of Rhodeisland and Providenceplantations; but more particularly of the town of Providence—of the College—its regulations, and the studies pursued there—and of the degrees in literature conferred by colleges in general, and of their reason and intention. Together with a Catalogue of those who have graduated at this college, from its first institution.

Condition—The Books will be neatly printed in octavo, on American paper, and stitched in blue, and delivered to subscribers at the moderate price of two shillings hard money, or twelve shillings in the paper currency of Rhodeisland, or in any of the securities of the United States, or other money equivalent.

☞ SUBSCRIPTIONS for the above publication are received by I. THOMAS, at his Bookstore in Worcester.

November, 1787.

EDWARD HOUGHTON informs the Publick that he has again commenced Newscarrier, and will be happy to supply his former Customers, and such others as may please, with the WORCESTER MAGAZINE. He expects that ALL who owe him for Newspapers and Magazines heretofore received, will now make him immediate payment, as the pressing demands of his Creditors upon him will not permit him to wait on them any longer; but if they still neglect, he shall be under the disagreeable necessity of putting their accounts and notes in suit without delay. He will leave Magazines for those who become his Customers at the usual places, and the price will be as formerly, one half thereof to be paid in six weeks from receiving the first Magazine, and the other half at the expiration of the quarter. Where there are a number in a town who wish to take, he would be glad if some one of them would become accountable for the whole number, which will be more easy for the subscribers, and save him the trouble of settling numerous small accounts. ☞ Business committed to his care will be faithfully executed.

Winchester, Nov. 10th, 1787.

For the Use of SINGING SCHOOLS.

This day published, price one shilling,

AN Introduction to the Grounds of MUSICK, containing all the Rules necessary for Learners, in an easy and plain manner.

Printed and sold by I, THOMAS, in Worcester.

VOL. IV.] THE [NUMB. IX.

WORCESTER MAGAZINE.

For the Fourth Week in November, 1787.

HISTORY of the late WAR in AMERICA.

From the BRITISH ANNUAL REGISTER, *for* 1780.

MEASURES being accordingly concerted with the commodore, the Pomona was towed in pretty close to the fort during the night, and the heavier ships took their proper stations, so as to be able to commence the attack on their side about three in the morning; giving a signal twenty minutes before, which was to direct that from the land. In the mean time, 150 men, in four columns in line, and carrying the scaling ladders, were moved down the hill, where they lay waiting for the signal. That being given, they advanced in the same silence, and with trailed arms, under the fire of their own batteries; which, with the heavy cannonade from the ships, served to defen, as well as to distract the enemy; so that they passed, undiscovered by the Spanish centries, to the very entrance of the ditch.

There they were discovered, and the columns seemed for a moment to hesitate; but instantly recovering, they advanced to fix their ladders to the wall, immediately under a battery of five guns. The first ladder was demolished by the flank guns of another bastion, and a midshipman of the Lowestoffe killed, and several wounded; the other ladders were damaged, but fortunately were not rendered useless. Two seamen having mounted the wall, levelled their muskets, without firing, at a body of above sixty Spaniards, and such was the panick and consternation that prevailed, that they kept them for some moments in awe, and even motionless, while their friends were ascending the ladders. The garrison, notwithstanding all the efforts of their officers, fled on all sides. Above a hundred escaped over the wall on the opposite side; but the greatest part took shelter in the casemates. In these circumstances, the governour and principal officers, making no request but for their lives, presented their swords and keys to the commandant, with a surrender of the fort, garrison and ships.

The prisoners amounted to 355, rank and file, besides officers and inhabitants. The treasure had been removed from the castle on the approach of the British forces; but that on board the galleons, with the cargoes of other vessels in the harbour, and the value of the ships themselves, were estimated at about three millions of piasters, or pieces of eight. But of all this, nothing was so severely felt, or so real a loss to the Spaniards, as that of 250 quintals of quicksilver, newly arrived from Old Spain; a commodity so essential to the purification, and to the separation of their gold and silver ores, from other bodies, that the value of their mines must depend upon its constant supply. This, therefore, they offered to ransom at almost any price; but the conquerors, preferring the publick good to their own private emolument, would not part upon any terms with an article, which, though of no great value to themselves, was of such immense consequence to the enemy.

Upon the ſame principle, they refuſed to ranſom the caſtle, for which high offers were likewiſe made, and left a garriſon for its defence; although their generous views were fruſtrated in this reſpect by its ſubſequent loſs; ariſing more from the unhealthineſs of the place, than from any power or vigour exerted by the enemy in its recovery.

The conduct of the commanders and officers by ſea and land on this ſervice was in all its parts exemplary. Like a well regulated machine, nothing was inert or deficient. The naval captains, Pakenham, Nugent, and Parker, had opportunities of being diſtinguiſhed in various caſes of difficulty and danger; and Captain Carden, of the 60th, who acted as engineer, acquired no leſs credit in his department. But nothing afforded more praiſe, or redounded more to the honour of commanders, officers, and even private individuals, than the humanity and generoſity with which they treated the vanquiſhed. This will appear ſtill the more truly laudable, when the recent cauſes of irritation and reſentment which they had met with are taken into the account.

A convention was concluded, between the Britiſh commanders on the one ſide, and the Spaniſh governour and officers on the other, which went happily to the redemption of the poor baymen and their families, who had been lately conveyed to Merida, as well as other Engliſh, and ſome Muſquito Indians, who had for a longer or ſhorter time been in a ſtate of impriſonment or ſlavery. The governour and garriſon were enlarged for the preſent, as priſoners of war upon parole; but bound to return, and ſurrender themſelves at a given time, if the conditions were not complied with. As the averſion of the Spaniards to the baymen is well known, it was thought neceſſary to retain hoſtages on this occaſion. And as a farther ſecurity, the church plate and religious ornaments, for which all ranſom had been refuſed, was retained as a depoſit, to be returned freely as a preſent along with the hoſtages, upon the due performance of the conditions.

The recital of any act of mere courage, however extraordinary, in a Britiſh ſeaman, would appear rather ſuperfluous. The following inſtance of magnanimity, however ſingular, is in its circumſtances ſo truly characteriſtick of the peculiar manners, ideas, and generous valour, of that invaluable order of men, that we cannot reſtrain our inclination of endeavouring to preſerve it from oblivion. A common ſailor, who ſcrambled ſingly over the wall, had, for the better annoyance, on all ſides, of the enemy, armed himſelf with a cutlaſs in each hand. Thus equipped, he fell in with a Spaniſh officer, juſt rouſed from ſleep, and who, in the hurry and confuſion, had forgotten his ſword. This circumſtance reſtrained the fury of the ſeamen; who, diſdaining an unarmed foe, but unwilling to relinquiſh ſo happy an opportunity of diſplaying his courage in ſingle combat, preſented one of the cutlaſſes, to him, telling him "he ſcorned any advantage; you are now upon a footing with me." The aſtoniſhment of the officer at ſuch an act of generoſity, and at the facility with which a friendly parley took place, when he expected nothing leſs, from the uncouth and hoſtile appearance of his foe, than that of being cut inſtantly, and without pity or mercy, into pieces, could only be rivalled by the admiration which his relating the ſtory excited in his countrymen.

It ſeems remarkable, that Rear Admiral Hyde Parker, who ſucceeded Admiral Byron in the command on the Leeward Iſland ſtation, ſhould not have received any certain intelligence of d'Eſtaing's departure with his fleet to the coaſt of North America, until ſo late as the 24th of October, when he diſcovered it by the capture of the Alcmene, a French frigate of war. That vigilant commander, well ſeconded by

Rear Admiral Rowley, preserved so decided a superiority over M. de la Motte Piquet, during the latter part of that year, and the beginning of the ensuing, that they not only severely distressed the French trade, and took and destroyed the greater part of a convoy within his view at Fort Royal; but that he had himself, at one time, a narrow escape from falling into their hands. It is likewise to be observed, in honour to the French commander, that by suddenly slipping his cables, putting out to sea with three ships, and with great gallantry and dexterity engaging the foremost of the British fleet, and again retiring under his batteries, he thereby afforded an opportunity to a considerable part of that convoy which we have mentioned to escape. It was upon that occasion, that the brave Capt. Griffith, of the Conqueror, in pursuing the enemy too close upon their batteries, was unfortunately killed. The British commanders had likewise the fortune to intercept, and after a chace of an extraordinary length, to take, three large, heavy metalled French frigates, which were on their return from the Savannah to Martinique.

[*To be continued.*]

COMMONWEALTH of MASSACHUSETTS.

In the Year of our Lord, one Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty Seven.

An Act, in addition to an Act, entitled, "An Act to raise a publick Revenue by Excise.

BE *it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same,* That so much of a clause in the act to which this is an addition, as directs the Collector or his Deputy, who may receive certificates given by persons living in another county, to transmit them to the Collector of the county, where the person giving them lives, be repealed; and that the several Collectors be, and they are hereby directed, to transmit to the Comptrollergeneral, all the certificates which they may receive from importers or other persons accounting with them, except such certificates as are given by persons living within their respective districts—and if the Comptrollergeneral, on examination, shall find any of those certificates not credited by the person signing the same, he shall transmit them to the Collector of the county or district, where the person giving them lives,

And be it enacted, That if any person legally authorized to sell excised articles, shall give a certificate promising to account for the excise on the articles contained therein, and shall neglect to do it in the manner and at the times prescibed by the act to which this is an addition, such person shall pay the excise on the articles mentioned in such certificate, and 50 *per centum*, in addition thereto;—and if any person not legally authorized as aforesaid, shall give such certificate, he shall forfeit and pay four fold duties on the articles mentioned therein; and the Collector of the county or district, where such delinquent lives, shall demand the same; and if not paid in thirty days, he shall sue for, and recover the penalty aforesaid, in any Court proper to try the same; and the Collector shall pay into the Treasury all such duties and penalties, as soon as may be, after the receipt thereof, and shall account with the Comptrollergeneral therefor.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any licenced or permitted person shall neglect to exhibit his accounts and certificates, agreeably to the act to which this is an addition, on the first days of May and November annually, or within thirty days thereof, the Collector shall put his bond in suit, and shall recover a sum not less than double the whole amount of the du-

ties on all the excised articles such perſon had on hand, at the ſettlement laſt made, and on all which he may have imported or given certificates to account for, ſince ſuch ſettlement; and if after rendering ſuch accounts, any perſon ſhall neglect to pay the exciſe due thereon, for forty days after the ſaid firſt days of May and November reſpectively, the Collector ſhall then proceed as is by law provided in caſe of the nonpayment of the duties on Wheel-carriages.

And be it further enacted, That this act ſhall begin to operate, and be in force, from and after the firſt day of January, in the year of our Lord, one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty eight;—and the Comptroller-general, is hereby directed to tranſmit a copy of this act, to the ſeveral Collectors of Impoſt and Exciſe, within this Commonwealth, that they may govern themſelves accordingly.

In the *Houſe* of *Repreſentatives*, November 15, 1787.

This bill having had three ſeveral readings paſſed to be enacted.

JAMES WARREN, Speaker.

In *Senate*, November 16, 1787.

This bill having had two ſeveral readings paſſed to be enacted.

SAMUEL ADAMS, Preſident.

Approved—JOHN HANCOCK.

A true copy:

Atteſt, JOHN AVERY, jun. Secry.

ANECDOTE.

THE following inſtance of the influence of a good and great man, will, we preſume, be acceptable to every reader who loves his country, and venerates its darling Hero.—In the late Federal Convention, it had been for a long time debated what ſhould be the ratio of repreſentation, and it was carried by a conſiderable majority to make it one for every *forty thouſand* inhabitants. In this form the matter was ſent to the preſs; but when the ſubject came for the laſt time, under the conſideration of the convention, and was about to be confirmed by an almoſt unanimous vote, *General Waſhington* roſe, and ſpoke to the following effect: "Though I am ſenſible of the impropriety of your chairman's intermingling in your debates, yet I cannot help obſerving, that the ſmall number which conſtitutes the repreſentative body, appears to be a defect in your plan. It would better ſuit my ideas, and, I believe, it will be more grateful to the wiſhes of the people, if that number was encreaſed." The queſtion was immediately put, without a debate, upon a motion that the ratio be one for *thirty thouſand* (as it now ſtands) and it was unanimouſly carried. Such was the magick force of this patriot's opinion! and it adds to the luſtre of his virtues, that this critical interference (which we are well aſſured, was all the ſhare he had in the buſineſs of the late convention) tended to promote the intereſt and dignity of *the people*.

ANECDOTE.

NOT many years ſince, a gentleman who officiated at Caſtle William, as chaplain to the garriſon, for ſome *ſin of omiſſion or commiſſion*, was ſentenced to ride the wooden horſe, with a muſquet faſtened to each foot.—One morning, while this ſon of the caſſock was undergoing penance, he was accoſted by the commander of the Caſtle, with "Good morning, Mr. Chaplain, pray what are you doing this morning?"—"Oh, Major," replied the Prieſt, in the true clerical tone, "*you ſee I am* RUNNING *the Chriſtian* RACE, STEDFAST *and* IMMOVEABLE."

INDUSTRY and PERSEVERANCE.

MR. Saunders was at firſt no better than a beggar boy, if not a pariſh foundling, without known parents or relations. By his obſequiouſneſs and attention to the attorney's clerks in Clements Inn, he picked up a ſcanty ſubſiſtence, and made the ſociety deſirous to do him further ſervice. He had a ſtrong deſire to learn to write, and one of the attorneys had a board knocked up at a window on the top of a ſtair caſe, for his deſk, where he ſat and wrote after copies given him by the clerks. In a ſhort time he became a ſwift and correct tranſcriber; by degrees he fell to forms, and by books which were lent him, was noted as an exquiſite entering clerk. In ſhort, his prudence and diligence never abating for a moment, he was in a courſe of years called to the bar, and allowed to be one of the moſt eminent and popupular practitioners of his time.

This man, whoſe entrance into life was ſo unpromiſing, by a happy diſpoſition and unremitting induſtry, was at length raiſed to be Chief Juſtice of England, on the death of Pemberton, and held that high office until his death, which happened a little before the revolution.

BURYING HILL.

WHAT a multitude of beings, noble creatures, are here reduced to duſt! God has broken his own beſt workmanſhip to pieces, and demoliſhed by thouſands the fineſt earthly ſtructures of his own building. Death has entered in, and reigned over this town for many ſucceeding years; it has its commiſſion from God, and it has devoured multitudes of men.

Go to Burying hill, then, O ſinful and thoughtleſs mortal—go learn from every tombſtone, and every riſing hillock, that '*The wages of ſin is death.*' Learn in ſilence, among the dead, that leſſon which infinitely concerns the living—nor let thy heart be ever at reſt, until thou art acquainted with Jeſus, '*who is the reſurrection and the Life.*'

ACCOUNT of a very extraordinary PERSON in Northcarolina. From "A Tour in the United States of America." By J. F. D. Smyth, Eſquire.

AT a fine ſettlement, called Nuthuſh, from a creek of that name, I fell into compan with one of the moſt ſingular perſons and eccentrick geniuſes in America, and perhaps in the world.

His name is Nathaniel Henderſon; his father, who is ſtill alive, a poor man, reſides in this ſettlement, where the ſon was, at this time on a viſit.

The latter was grown up to maturity, without having been taught to read or write; and he acquired thoſe rudiments of education, and arithmetick alſo, by his own indefatigable induſtry.

He then obtained the inferiour office of conſtable. From that he was promoted to the office of under ſheriff. After this, he procured a licence to plead as a lawyer, in the inferiour or county courts, and ſoon after in the ſuperiour or higheſt courts of judicature.

Even there, where oratory is brilliant as in Weſtminſter Hall, he ſoon became eminent: his ſuperiour genius ſhone forth with great ſplendour and univerſal applauſe.

He was, at the ſame time, a man of pleaſure, gay, facetious, and pliant; nor did his amazing talents, and general praiſe, excite him a ſingle enemy.

In ſhort, while yet a very young man, he was promoted from the bar to the bench, and appointed aſſociate chief juſtice of the province of Northcarolina.

Even in this elevated ſtation hi-to-

putation continued to increase.

But having made several large purchases, and having fallen into a train of expence, that his finances could not support, his extensive genius struck out a bolder track to fortune and fame, than any one had ever attempted before him.

Under pretence of viewing some back lands, he privately went out to the Cherokee nation, of Indians, and, for an insignificant consideration (only ten waggons, loaded with cheap goods, such as coarse woolens, trinkets, some fire arms, and spiritous liquors) made a purchase from the chiefs of the nation, of a vast tract of territory, equal in extent to a kingdom; and, in the excellence of climate and soil, extent of its rivers, and beauty of its situations, inferiour to none in the world. A domain of no less than 100 miles square, situate on the back or interiour part of Virginia, and of North and Southcarolina; comprehending the rivers of Kentucky, Cherokee, and Ohio, with a variety of inferiour rivulets.

This transaction he kept a profound secret, until he had obtained the final ratification of the whole nation in form. He then immediately invited settlers from all the provinces, offering them land on the most advantageous terms, and proposing to them likewise to form a legislature and government of their own; such as might be most convenient to their particular circumstances of settlement. And he instantly vacated his seat on the bench.

Mr. Henderson by this means established a new colony, numerous and respectable, of which he himself was actually proprietor as well as governour, and indeed legislator also; having formed a code of laws, particularly adapted to their singular situation and local circumstances.

In vain did the different governours fulminate their proclamations of outlawry against him and his people; in vain did they offer rewards for apprehending him, and forbid every person from joining, or repairing to, his settlements; under the authority of a general law, that renders the formal assent of the governours and assemblies of the different provinces absolutely necessary to validate the purchase of any lands from the Indian nations. For this instance being the act of the Indians themselves, they defended him and his colony, being in fact as a barrier between Virginia, as well as North and Southcarolina, and him; his territory lying to the westward of their nation.

I beg leave to observe, that I do not presume to undertake his justification, but only to admire his enterprising policy, and the vigour and activity of his mind.

HUMANE SOCIETY of MASSACHUSETTS.

THE Humane Society of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, actuated by the same disposition to mitigate the miseries, and preserve the lives of their fellow men, which originated their institution, have at a considerable expence erected three small houses for the relief and preservation of shipwrecked seaman—one on Lovell's island, situated on the northwest side, on a rising ground, about sixty rods from the beach or shore: One on the outer beach of Nantasket, and one on Scituate beach, a little to the northward of *North River*, on the neck of land which is usually called the *Hummocks*; These being, in the judgment of the Marine Society, the places most exposed and most likely to answer the ends for which they are intended. The Humane Society have ordered poles to be erected on them to point out where said houses stand, and in them they have caused to be deposited the necessary means of kindling and preserving a fire, and some other means suitable for the comfort and relief of the shipwrecked mariner.

Could they ſuppoſe that any perſon would be ſo loſt to every ſenſe of humanity and gratitude, as to take away any of theſe neceſſaries and refreſhments, they might think it needful to inform the publick that they ſhall take effectual means to deteſt and to puniſh, with the utmoſt ſeverity of law, the perſon or perſons who may commit any robbery upon theſe houſes; but they cannot think that any one who has the ſmalleſt trace of ſenſibility, or of juſtice, would deprive the poor, helpleſs, and diſtreſſed mariner of any thing which may be neceſſary to his comfort or eaſe, in circumſtances of extreme calamity.

The ſeveral Printers in this and the neighbouring States, and in thoſe ports whoſe veſſels frequent the harbour of Boſton, are deſired to inſert this article of intelligence in their papers, in order that ſeamen in general may be acquainted with the means deviſed by the ſociety for their relief and aſſiſtance, and may be led accordingly to make uſe of them, in caſe of neceſſity.

COMPARISON of the POWER of the KING of GREATBRITAIN with that of the STADTHOLDER of HOLLAND.

AS the affairs of Holland grow daily more intereſting, and the diſpute between the Stadtholder and the States is the general topick, the following compariſon of the power of the Stadtholder, and the King of Greatbritain, according to the principles of the Conſtitution, cannot but be acceptable.

Greatbritain.

The Crown is hereditary, confined by acts of Parliament to the Proteſtant line.

The King has the abſolute diſpoſal of ſea and land forces, and commands all ſieges, marches, battles, appoints without controul all officers, and makes promotions at will.

Holland.

The Stadtholderſhip is elective, but confin to the preſent family of Orange by general conſent of the whole confederacy.

The Stadtholder is Capt. Gen. and Adm. of the United Provinces; but his power is ſo limited that he can neither order a march, direct a ſiege, or fight a battle, without inſtructions from the aſſembly of the States General; nor can he appoint any one officer in the army or navy, the conſtitution of the States reſuming this to themſelves.

The King makes all civil appointments.

The Stadtholder has not authority to appoint even an Exciſe officer.

The King has power to give full pardon to condemned criminals.

The Stadtholder has power to pardon criminals.

The King repreſents as well the authority as the dignity of the State.

The Stadtholder repreſents the dignity of the republick; but the States General, are the only Sovereigns.

The King appoints ambaſſadours, conſuls, &c. whom ſuch officers repreſent

The Stadtholder appoints neither. All Ambaſſadours are appointed by the States only.

The King conſtitutes the firſt of the three eſtates of which the ſupreme legiſlature is compoſed, and preſides by his Chancellor in Parliament at all times.

The Stadtholder has no authority, ſeat, or vote, in the Aſſembly of the States. He has no ſhare in their deliberations or councils, either in perſon or by deputy.

The King makes and signs all treaties of peace, war, commerce or alliance which are held as valid and sacred without parliamentary ratification.

The King can dissolve his parliament, prorogue their meetings, or call them together on business, *ad libitum*.

The prerogatives of the King are at all times fixed.

The King has a revenue of 900,000l. per annum.

The States General are the makers and negociators of all treaties whatever. The Stadtholders signing is often dispensed with; and when done, is only to give an eclat.

The Stadtholder cannot even call the magistrates together, but by the authority from the States.

The Stadtholders prerogatives are alterable. They are not precisely the same in any two provinces of the confederacy.

The Stadtholder's appointments do not amount to one eighth part of that sum.

The splendour of the throne keeps the subject at a distance. The courtiers are numerous, and their attachment from interest.

The friends of the crown are hard to be distinguished. Foreign alliances, even matrimonial ones, are generally with a view to the national interest.

In Great-britain the maxim is preserved, that the sovereign never dies.

The Stadtholder is upon a level with the other nobility of Holland. His court are few, but the persons of whom it is composed are attached from personal affection and regard.

The Prince of Orange's friends are known. His alliances are as distinct from those of the republick as possible.

In Holland, on the decease of a Stadtholder, his successour must pass the ceremony of being elected and confirmed by an assembly of the States General.

Extracts from Letters of a French Gentleman who lately visited the Western Country.

"IT was on the 4th morning at day break we weighed anchor, and in the space of three days of sweet and tranquil navigation, anchored before the Scioto, 218 miles from the Muskingum, and 390 from Pittsburgh, in order to receive on board Gen. Richard Butler, who came from finishing some negociations with the Shawanese: It is to him I am indebted for the following particulars of that fine river, upon the banks of which he had resided during five years of the war.

"The Scioto is almost as large as the Ohio. Its current is navigable for vessels of a middle size, to the village of Seccarum, 111 miles from its mouth. At this village commences the grand portage of Sandusky, which is but 4 miles—a communication much frequented by Whites and Savages*, and consequently of the greatest importance. This river waters a champaign country very luxuriant and extensive.

"Those vast lands so well known under the name of the Plains of Scioto, begin some miles above the river Kaskinkas and continue almost to Succarum——they are watered by the pretty rivulets of Alaman, Deer, Kispoko, &c. and a great number of more considerable streams. It is towards their sources that you have a view of the fine vil-

* These last, who have horses and waggons, transport goods for so much the hundred.

lages of the Shawaneſe nation. Many of them are from 25 to 30 miles in circumference; and as if nature had been willing to render them ſtill more uſeful to man, ſhe has covered them with gentle riſings, upon which ſhe has planted the fineſt trees. Theſe plains are never overflowed, and their fertility is moſt admirable. If a poor man, who has nothing but his arms to ſupport him, ſhould aſk of me, where ſhall I go to eſtabliſh myſelf, in order to live more at my eaſe without the aid of oxen or horſes? I would ſay unto him, Go upon the banks of ſome rivulet, on the plains of Scioto. There you will obtain permiſſion of the ſavages of the neighbouring villages to ſcratch the ſurface of the earth, and depoſit your rye, corn, potatoes, cabbages, tobacco, &c. leave the reſt to nature, and during her operations amuſe yourſelf with fiſhing and hunting.

"The uncultivated lands are annually covered with buffaloe graſs, which in October very much reſembles thick foreſts of reeds to which the Shawaneſe never fail to put fire, in order to prevent the approach of enemies, and to render the graſs more tender and more abundant in the ſpring. What a ſpectacle does this vaſt conflagration offer! It is at once intereſting and terrible! intereſting, from its appearance, from the noiſe and brightneſs of the flames, the whirlwinds, the maſſes of thick and dark ſmoke, and many other curious and extraordinary phænomena which accompany it. It is terrible, from the involuntary ſentiment of danger, that this great ſcene of devaſtation preſents, and from the fear that ſome unhappy travellers are croſſing theſe plains at this epoch—for every year many of them periſh here. I have no expreſſions which could paint to you the velocity of theſe devouring flames; quickly they rarify the air of the adjacent parts, and agitate the tranquillity of the atmoſphere——then a furious wind exhibits itſelf in the moſt calm day. In certain places it raiſes the flames in ſpiral columns to a prodigious height; in others it ſeems to compreſs and roll them in maſſes of different diameters. Often detached ſparks by the impetuoſity of this ſame wind, are tranſported to the extreme of its own ſtrength; there they become imperceptibly the principles of new flames, but lie latent, to diſplay themſelves when the grand author* ſtrikes them. Then on all ſides a ſecond conflagration appears, a ſecond line of fire is raiſed, glitters, and rolling upon itſelf, devours every combuſtible object. If it meets in its paſſage any woody iſlands, it conſumes the groves, and the tempeſt which accompanies it often breaks and throws down all the trees.

"The whirlwinds of dark and thick ſmoke which are raiſed in a thouſand different forms, announce at a great diſtance to the unwary traveller, the danger of his ſituation; he is loſt if he is not in the vicinity of high lands or a river. I have ſeen the torrents run through the breadth of the plains in a very ſhort ſpace of time, and aſſure you that I never attentively conſidered this great ſcene of deſtruction, without being penetrated with an involuntary dread; Knowing that theſe terrible effects are produced by the combination of the two moſt powerful elements of nature, which mutually increaſe their deſtructive power.

"Going one day from the village of Waccahala to that of Chillichatee, I perceived the commencement of one of theſe great fires; what was my conſternation and terrour, when a few minutes after, a ſecond and a third line of conflagration ſhewed themſelves at a mile's diſtance. I did not know whence the fire came, and although I was well mounted, and had not more than 6 or 700 fathoms to travel, my horſe nevertheleſs could hardly ſave me.

"Every ſpring a prodigious number of ſtorks come to inhabit theſe

* The Winds.

plains; they are at leaſt ſix feet high; while feeding, they have their centinels to watch, and announce the approach of danger. Some time before their departure, they aſſemble in large flocks, and upon a certain day, all together raiſe themſelves ſlowly, and by a kind of circular aſcent, deſcribe large ſpiral paths in their flight.

"Finally, on the tenth day after our departure from Pittſburgh, we anchored before Louiſville, having made 705 miles of navigation in 212 hours and 30 minutes of time."

Summary of late Intelligence.

Foreign News.

LONDON, September 10.

REMARKABLE alteration in the colour of a negro woman, communicated to the Royal Society:—A cook maid, a native of Virginia, about 40 years of age, remarkably healthy, of a ſtrong and robuſt conſtitution, had her ſkin originally as dark as that of the moſt ſwarthy African's; but about 15 years ago, ſhe obſerved that membrane, in the parts next adjoining to the finger nails, to become white. Her mouth ſoon underwent the ſame change, and the phænomenon hath ſince continued gradually to extend itſelf over the whole body; ſo that every part of its ſurface is become more or leſs the ſubject of this ſurpriſing alteration. In her preſent ſtate, four parts in five of the ſkin are white, ſmooth, and tranſparent, as in a white European, elegantly ſhewing the ramifications of the ſubjacent blood veſſels; the parts remaining ſooty, daily looſe their blackneſs, and in ſome meaſure partake of the prevailing colour; ſo that a very few years will, in all probability, induce a total change. The neck and back, along the courſe of the vertebræ, maintain their priſtine hue the moſt, and in ſome ſpots proclaim their original ſtate; the head, face and breaſt, with belly, legs, arms and thighs, are almoſt wholly white; the axillæ partly coloured; the ſkin of theſe parts, as far as white, being covered with white hair; where dark, with black. Her face and breaſt, as often as the paſſions anger, ſhame, &c. affect her, have been immediately obſerved to glow with bluſhes; as alſo when, in purſuance of her buſineſs, ſhe has been expoſed to the action of the fire, ſome freckles have made their appearance.

Obſervation on Madneſs in Dogs.

Madneſs in dogs comes on with a ſtupor, ſhynes of objects, and loſs of appetite; their eyes appear heavy and watery, with a moiſtneſs over the body. In the ſecond ſtage they dart from water; the veſſels in the eyes appear turgid or ferrety; the ſkin is dry, the mouth becomes parched, breathing quick, panting with the tongue out, foams at the mouth, or drivels a thick ſaliva; now ſnaps, and bites at every thing, wanders from home; and laſtly, runs until he drops, and dies in ſtrong convulſions. On the firſt appearance of this diſorder, throwing the dog ſuddenly into water, has been thought efficacious. Antimonials have ſtill a better effect. The bite of a mad dog is curable by deſtroying immediately the parts by a knife, or actual cautery. Antimonials and mercurials are the beſt preventatives; but when the poiſon has once invaded the conſtitution, phyſical helps have no avail; and death is the inevitable conſequence.

Falſe Meſſiah.

Some ages ago, a Jew of Smyrna, named Sabbati Sevi, a man of tolerable learning, and ſon to a rich broker of the Engliſh, declared himſelf to be the Meſſiah. He was eloquent, had an engaging figure, affected great modeſty, preached up juſtice, delivered himſelf with the air of an oracle, and declared every where that the fulneſs of time was come. He ran away with a young Engliſh girl of Leghorn, whom he brought with him to Jeruſalem, where he began to harrangue his brethren. This King of the Jews was brought to the Seraglio. The Sultan aſked him in the Turkiſh language, if he was the Meſſiah. Sabbati modeſtly replied that he was. But as he ſpoke the Turkiſh language very incorrectly, Mahomet told him that he ſpoke very badly for a Meſſiah, who ought to have the gift of tongues. Doſt thou perform miracles, continued the Sultan? Sometimes, anſwered Sabbati. Well then, ſaid the Emperour, let him be inſtantly ſtripped naked, he ſhall be placed as a mark for my Ichoglans to ſhoot their arrows at, and if he is invulnerable, we will acknowledge him as the Meſſiah.

American News.

FREDERICKSBURG, (*Virginia*) Nov. 5.

On the 23d ult. the Legiſlature reelected Edmund Randolph, Eſq; Governour of this Commonwealth for the enſuing year.

The ſame day, the following gentlemen were appointed to repreſent this ſtate in Congreſs for one year, viz. James Madiſon, Jun. Edward Carrington, Henry Lee, Cyrus Griffin, and John Brown, Eſquires.

CARLISLE, (*Pennſylvania*) October 24.

About two weeks ago, the following melancholy accident happened in Franklin coun-

ty:—Some time in the night the house of Mr. Bowen, jun. took fire and consumed to ashes; the wind blowing very high, the fire communicated to the house of his father, at the distance of about twenty rods, which was likewise consumed. We are informed that a considerable part of the old man's effects were saved; but the former's wife, with four of his children, and the whole of his household goods, were burnt. It is hoped, that, as the winter is fast approaching, this may be a warning to people to guard against that impetuous and dreadful element—Fire.

PHILADELPHIA, November 3.

A correspondent observes, that the subject of the revolution of the Magnetick Poles, since its late investigation, has engaged the attention of the literati.

When the north magnetick pole was last on the meridian of England, the northern lights were very frequent in that kingdom for many years, until they gradually disappeared in the north east. Since which they were not observed there for several ages; some of the last that are upon record as having appeared there before those of the present century, are those of January 30th, 1560; October 7th, 1564; November 14th and 15th, 1574. See Rowning's Philosophy, volume 1, page 243.—After a long absence they again appeared towards the north west: A small one appeared in Ireland, November 16, 1707; another appeared in England, August 9th, 1708; a remarkable one appeared there also March 16th, 1715. They have continued very common ever since, and still do, especially when the air to the northward is in a clear state: And the nigher the magnetick pole comes to the meridian of a place, the more frequent are those appearances.

The rays of the Aurora Borealis have been observed from different parts of the globe, to be on a direction of the magnetick meridians, "this is particularly observable in those meteors of late years, whose tracts have been ascertained with most exactness, as that of November 26, 1758, described by Sir John Pringle; that of July, 1771, treated of by Mons. Le Roy, and that of the 18th of August last. The largest proportion of other accounts of meteors confirm the same observation, even those of a more early period; nay, I think some traces of it are perceivable in the writings of the ancients." See reflections on meteors by Charles Blagden, physician to the army and Secretary to the Royal Society in London. Philosophical Transactions, vol. 74, and Annual Register for 1784, part 3d, page 135.

The northern magnetick pole is at present on the meridian of Baffin's Bay. At the head of the Bay of Fundy, the tides are said to rise and fall sixty feet perpendicular: Here are large bodies of ground which at present shew the stumps and roots of trees at least twenty feet below high water mark: As trees are never found growing under salt water, it follows that the waters are higher at this bay at the present, than they have been some time past. At divers places on the coast of the western parts of Europe, there are evident marks that the waters are not so high as they have been.

In the year 1446, when the northern magnetick pole should have been near the meridian of Holland, the sea broke in and drowned one hundred thousand persons; see Chronological Table, Tyler's new universal geographical grammar.—It may be worthy of a diligent enquiry into the true cause of these phenomena; for in some things of which the principles are well known, there is no general rule without exception: How much more properly might this maxim be applied in matters which are connected with others, the causes of which have escaped the diligent enquiries of the greatest Philosophers.

November 14.—Yesterday the honourable the General Assembly elected the following gentlemen delegates to Congress, for the ensuing year, viz. William Irvine, Samuel Meredith, John Armstrong, William Bingham, and James R. Reed.

NEW YORK, November 16.

On Sunday sailed the ship Grace, Captain Armor, for Amsterdam. In her went passengers, the Chevalier John Paul Jones, and Mr. Jarvis, contractor for supplying the United States with copper coin.

Extract of a letter received by the Packet Le Courier de L'Europe, Capt. Fournier, arrived yesterday in this port.

"The Archbishop of Thoulouse being made Prime Minister, the Marechals of Castries and Segur, Ministers of the Marine and War departments, resigned; it is said the former will have the regiment of the guards, in the room of Marechal Byron. The Compte de Montmorin, Minister of Foreign Affairs, acts pro tempore, as Minister of the Marine, to which department the Compte de la Luzerne is appointed, being now Governour of the French Hispaniola. Mr. de Villedeuil, Comptroller General, has resigned—the Parliament of Paris has returned to that capital—the Provincial Assemblies are established in all the Provinces, and many have been assembled already—the Marquis de la Fayette is in Auvergne, as a principal member of the Assembly of that province; so that the late fracas and political bustle in France has rather been useful, in as much as it teaches us to meddle and interest ourselves in our own national concerns. The king's private economy, instead of forty millions, is carried to fifty two, and it is thought that such has been the opposition of all the Parliaments, that neither the STAMP ACT nor Territorial Impost will take place;—our harvest has been singularly abundant."

We learn from Georgia that martial law is proclaimed throughout that State—that the town of Savannah is strongly fortified by several redoubts and other works thrown up round it—and that small parties of Indians

have committed depredations within thirty six miles of Savannah.

NEWBURYPORT, November 21.

Yesterday, at three o'clock, P. M. the inhabitants of this town convened in town meeting, for the election of Delegates to represent them in the ensuing Convention, when the Hon. B. Greenleaf, Esq; Theophilus Parsons, Esq; Hon. Jona. Titcomb, and Hon. Rufus King, Esqrs. were chosen.

We are happy to inform the publick, that the town appeared to be unanimous in favour of the Constitution.

BOSTON, November 22.

Last Tuesday evening a bill for regulating the practice of the law, was debated and finally rejected in the House of Representatives.

Yesterday departed this life, after a long and tedious illness, which he bore with patience and resignation, Mr. JOHN GREEN, aged 56, formerly a respectable Printer in this town.

By Capt. Lewis, in the Brig Tybalt arrived here yesterday, in 37 days from Lisbon, in Portugal, we learn, that the Prussian army had taken the city of Amsterdam—that 20 sail of the line, of France, were under sailing orders; their destination unknown—and that the commotions which have long agitated Europe, were likely to produce a general war.

Nov. 26. On Thursday the House of Representatives chose, by ballot, *John Read*, Esq; and Dr. *Daniel Cony*, with such as the Hon. Senate should join, a Committee to make sale of the Eastern lands. A correspondent, who knows the importance of the object, hopes the sale of these lands will be speedily effected, as thereby a great part of our State debt might be cancelled, the interest on which daily accumulating, threatens us with disagreeable consequences.

His Excellency the Governour, a few days since, issued an order on the mint for 500 dollars, in the new *Cents*—which are now in circulation.

Friday last the two Houses of Assembly having nearly compleated their business, a Committee of both Houses were appointed to wait on the Governour to request a Recess; which on Saturday his Excellency was pleased to grant, to the third Wednesday in February next, after giving his assent to sundry Acts, among which are the following.

An act for enabling proprietors of private ways and bridges to repair them in equal proportion.

An act for incorporating a number of the inhabitants of the town of Worcester in the county of Worcester, into a separate Parish.

An act for the further regulating the assize of barreled Beef and Pork.

An act in addition to an act intitled, "an act to raise a publick revenue by excise.

An act for establishing publick lights on the north end of Plumbisland, in Ipswich Bay, in the county of Essex.

An act to unite the first and second precincts in the town of Leominster, in the county of Worcester, into one parish.

An act to enable Jeduthan Richardson to turn the water in Richardson's River, so called, in Woburn, in the county of Middlesex.

An act to annex a gore of land to the town of Longmeadow.

An act for naturalising Alexander Moore and others therein named.

An act for incorporating certain persons for the purpose of building a bridge over the river, between Salem and Beverly, and for supporting the same.

An act for the relief of poor prisoners who are committed by execution for debt.

An act to incorporate certain persons by the name of The Society for propagating the gospel among the Indians and others, in Northamerica.

An act making provision for the building and maintaining Lighthouses on the Sea Coast of this commonwealth, and for repealing all laws heretofore made for that purpose.

An act authorizing the Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court to licence the sale of real estate, by married women, in certain cases, and for other purposes in the act mentioned.

Intelligence from Europe of a later date than any heretofore received, was brought by Capt. *Cook*, in 38 days from Londonderry, in Ireland, who arrived here on Thursday last, which contradicts the accounts brought by the Tybalt, of the Prussian troops having reduced Amsterdam—that city, though closely invested, not having yet fallen into their hands.—Capt. *Cook* confirms the accounts of the distracted state of affairs in Holland, and of the probability of a general war in Europe.

On Thursday last, *John Sheehan*, a native of Cork, in Ireland, was executed on the commons in this town, for burglary in the house of Mr. S. Elliot, in June last.—At the place of execution his behaviour was becoming his unhappy situation—and he made his exit with considerable composure. He was 24 years old—was a Roman Catholick—and, except in the burglary for which he suffered, does not appear, in his life, to have committed any atrocious offences.

On Saturday morning last died here, universally lamented, in the 31st year of her age, Mrs. *Sarah Russel*, the amiable and virtuous consort of *Thomas Russel*, Esq; of this town.

WORCESTER.

We hear the Hon. John Sprague, Esq; is chosen a delegate to represent the town of Lancaster, in the State Convention for considering the new Federal Constitution; the Hon. Caleb Strong, Esq; and Mr. Benjamin Sheldon, are chosen to represent the town of Northampton. We sincerely hope that every town will choose cool, sensible men—men who are acquainted with the nature of political government, and who regard the happiness of the people. There never was a time when we wanted the assistance of men of the greatest abilities more than the present—let us then look for such, and such whose political abilities are dignified by the noble principles of justice and honour.

The General Court finished their business on Saturday last—many of the members received part of their pay in cents, which are now in circulation.

STATE CONVENTION.

Proceedings of the Town of NORTHAMPTON, respecting a STATE CONVENTION.

THE town of Northampton, and the District of Easthampton, assembled together, on Thursday last, in legal town meeting, and made choice of the Hon. Caleb Strong, Esq; and Mr. Benjamin Sheldon, to represent them in Convention for the purpose of ratifying the reported Federal Constitution. A committee was then appointed to prepare an address to their delegates, and they reported the following, which was unanimously voted (excepting one dissentient only) viz.

To the Hon. Caleb Strong, Esq; and Mr. Benjamin Sheldon.

GENTLEMEN,

IN conformity to a resolution of the General Court, passed the 25th of October last, we have delegated you to meet in State Convention, on the second Wednesday of January next, for the purpose of adopting or rejecting the reported Constitution for the United States of America.

The object of your mission, Gentlemen, is of the highest magnitude in human affairs—every step we take in the progress of our examination evinces, that it is too important, complicated, and extensive, to be hastily decided upon—much time, and unwearied application, are requisite in order thoroughly to investigate it; the civil dignity and prosperity of this State, of the United States, and perhaps of humanity, are suspended on the decision of this momentous question: And we wish you, gentlemen, patiently to hear, and attentively to examine, every argument that shall be offered for and against its adoption—be not unduly influenced by any local consideration—let your minds be impressed with the necessity of having an equal, energetick, federal government—it is the welfare and dignity of the union, as well as of Massachusetts, that you are to consult—and while you are tenacious of the rights and privileges of the *People*, be not afraid to delegate to the federal government such powers as are absolutely necessary for advancing and maintaining our national honour and happiness.

But, gentlemen, we mean not to give you positive instructions relative to your voting for or against the reported Constitution—when assembled, you will have the collected wisdom of the State before you—will hear all that can be said on the subject, and consequently be able to form a judicious opinion—and having the fullest confidence in your political wisdom, integrity and patriotism, we cheerfully, on our part, submit the allimportant question to your decision—and we beseech the allwise Governour of the World to take the Convention under his holy influence, that so the result may be, *the best good of the People of the United States of America.* (Copy)—Attested by

ELIJAH HUNT, T. Clerk.

Northampton, Nov. 24th, 1787.

ALL persons indebted to the Estate of ANDREW DUNCAN, late of *Worcester*, Merchant deceased, are requested to make immediate payment; and all to whom said Estate is indebted are desired to bring in their accounts, in order for settlement, to

Worcester, Nov. 26, 1787. SARAH DUNCAN, Administratrix.

THE inhabitants of the town of *Worcester*, are hereby notified, that by giving in their Invoices to any one of the Assessors before the 15th of December next, they will be received.

November 28th, 1787. JOSEPH WHEELER, per order.

This day published,

And to be sold, Wholesale and Retail, at I. THOMAS's Bookstore in WORCESTER,

Thomas's Almanack,

With an EPHEMERIS,

For the Year of Our LORD, 1788:

Being *Bissextile*, or *Leap Year*, and Twelfth of the Independence of America: From Creation according to the Scriptures, 5750. Fitted to the Latitude and Longitude of the Town of *Boston*, but will serve, without essential variation, for the States of *Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New Hampshire,* and *Vermont.*

CONTAINING,

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Of Matters Useful and Necessary.

The Whole of the PLAN of GOVERNMENT, proposed by the FEDERAL CONVENTION, and now under Consideration of the PEOPLE of the United States; together with the Resolves of the Federal Convention, and the Letter of said Convention to Congress.

Also, Table of the Weight and Value of Coins—Account of all Articles subject to an Impost Duty—List of Contraband Articles, and Extracts from the Impost Act—List of all Excised Articles, with Extracts from the Excise Act—New Fee Table, containing a List of the Fees of the following Officers, viz.—Justices—Coroners—Registers of Probate—Justices of the Court of Common Pleas—Clerk of the Common Pleas—Justices, at the Sessions—Clerk of the Sessions—Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court—Attornies, Parties and Witnesses—Sheriffs and Constables—Criers—Gaolers—Grand Jurors—Jurors for Trial—for Marriages—Secretary's—Captain of Castle William—Messenger of the General Court—County Registers.

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In this Almanack there are *two* Astronomical Pages for each month. One Page containing an Ephemeris of the Planets Places, the Sun's rising and setting, the length of each Day, Clock Equations, Remarkable Days, Aspects, Sentimental Observations, &c. &c. The other Page contains, the Moon's rising and setting, Time of High Water both Morning and Evening, Moon's Age, Moon's Place, and Moon's Southing, for every Day, Tides, Judgment of the Weather, &c.

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